

Socioeconomic Status Of The Sanitary Women Workers In Thoothukudi

Dr. V. Thangamayan¹, Dr. O. Nethaji²

¹Assistant professor, PG and Research Department of Economics, Kamaraj College (Autonomous), Thoothukudi, affiliated college with in Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli - 627012, thangamayankvc@gmail.com

²Assistant professor, PG and Research Department of Mathematics, Kamaraj College (Autonomous), Thoothukudi, affiliated college with in Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli - 627012, jionetha@yahoo.com

Abstract

Sanitation, hygiene, and cleanliness are the traits of urbane society. The schedule set for supplying smooth water and higher sanitation centers practice extra for developing countries. The Sanitation people are at the lowest tier of the sanitation services. They maintain, inspect, easy and unclog sewers and, whilst wished, descend via manholes into fecal sludge, no protection equipment or tools. Women sanitary workers at Thoothukudi city live as a community and facing problems such as low wages, health hazards, sexual abuse, exploitation and denial of their rights. The study was taken up in Thoothukudi city. The study mainly based on primary survey. 60 women sanitary workers were interviewed through structured interview schedule. The study covered only 60 sample respondent focused on women sanitary workers. This has manifested in apathy of the political system by not addressing the larger issue of sanitation, worker safety.

Keywords: Women sanitary workers, Income, Problems, Thoothukudi city.

INTRODUCTION

Sanitation, hygiene, and cleanliness are the traits of urbane society. Sanitation is vital for health and sustainable socio monetary development. Needless to highlight, the great of human existence, and between rests upon better accessibility to sanitation. The schedule set for supplying smooth water and higher sanitation centers practice extra for developing countries. Persons employed in all types of amassing domestic / status quo waste, cleansing sewage pits and drains, sweeping roads and accumulating and putting off human and animal excreta, and animal corpses are known as sanitation people. The worst form of waste collection, open sewer drains, sewage pits, open public locations using brooms, tin plates, baskets or buckets with none non-public protection of all categories of occupations, the most invisible and least mentioned paintings in our U.S.A. is sanitation or control of human refuse, wastewater, effluents and strong waste. The Sanitation people are at the lowest tier of the sanitation services. They maintain, inspect, easy and unclog sewers and, whilst wished, descend via manholes into fecal sludge, no protection equipment or tools.

Statement of the problem

Women sanitary workers at Thoothukudi city live as a community and facing problems such as low wages, health hazards, sexual abuse, exploitation and denial of their rights. The women sanitary workers are exploited by the supervisors at work place. Their children do not get proper child care and medical facilities. The women sanitary workers don't have proper accommodation for staying.

Methodology

The study was taken up in Thoothukudi city. The study mainly based on primary survey. 60 women sanitary workers were interviewed through structured interview schedule. Percentage analysis used for getting for the result.

Objectives of the study

- 1) To study the socio-economic conditions of the women sanitary workers in study area.
- 2) To measure the income inequalities among the women sanitary workers in the study area.
- 3) To identify the problems of women sanitary workers in the study area.

Table. 1
Age of the Respondents

Age	No. of Respondents	Percentage
20-30	6	10
30-40	19	32
40-50	20	33
50-60	18	13
60-70	7	12
Total	60	100

Source: Primary Data

Shows that 10 percentage of the sample respondents are in the age group 20-30 years, 32 percentage of the respondents are in the age group of 30-40 years, 33 percentage of the respondents are in the age group of 40-50 years, 13 percentage of the respondents are in the age group of 50-60 years and remaining 12 percentage of the respondent are in the age group of 60-70 years.

Table. 2
Religions of the Respondents

Religion	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Hindu	50	83
Christian	10	17
Total	60	100

Source: Primary Data

In the majority 50 percentage of the respondent of the sanitary workers belonged to the Hindu religion and remaining 10 percentage of the respondent of the sanitary workers belonged to the Christian religion.

Table. 3
Communities of the Respondents

Community	No. of Respondent	Percentage
BC	14	23
MBC	12	20
SC	34	57
Total	60	100

Source: Primary Data

Table shows that 23 percentage of the respondents are BC, 20 percentage of them are MBC and 57 percentage of them are SC.

Table.4

The Marital Status of Respondents

Marital Status	No. of Respondent	Percentage
Married	54	90
Unmarried	4	7
Widow	4	3
Total	60	100

Source: Primary Data

States that 90 percentage of sanitary workers are married, 7 percentage of the respondents are unmarried and remaining 3 percentage of respondent are widow.

Table . 5

Educational Qualifications of the Respondents

Educational Qualification	No. of Respondent	Percentage
Illiterate	10	17
Primary	9	15
Secondary	11	18
Higher Secondary	26	43
Graduate	4	7
Total	60	100

Source: Primary Data

Above table shows that 17 percentage of the respondents are illiterate, 15 percentage have attained primary level of education, 18 percentage have completed secondary school education and 43 percentage have completed Higher secondary level of education and remaining 7 percentage of the worker are completed graduate.

Table .6

Type of Family

Type of family	No. of Respondent	Percentage
Joint Family	15	25
Nuclear Family	45	75
Total	60	100

Source: Primary Data

From the table it is the very clear that 75 percentage of the workers are living in nuclear type of family and 25 percentage of them are living in joint family system. This shows declining of joint family system.

Table.7

Family Size of the Respondents

Family Size	No. of Respondent	Percentage
Three	13	22
Four	36	60
More than Four	11	18
Total	60	100

Source: Primary Data

The above table shows that 18 percentage of the worker's family size is more than four members, 60 percentage of respondents have the family size of four members, 22 percentage of respondents have the family size of three members.

Table.8

Nature of House

Nature of House	No. of Respondent	Percentage
Own	19	32
Rented	38	63
Leased	3	5
Total	60	100

Source: Primary Data

The above table reveals that 32 percentage of the workers are having their own houses and 63 percentage of them are living in rented houses and remaining 5 percentage of them are living in leased houses.

Table. 9

Type of Job

Type of job	No. of Respondent	Percentage
Permanent	15	25
Temporary	45	75
Total	60	100

Source: Primary Data

Shows that 25 percentage of the respondent having permanent job and 75 percentage of the workers are having temporary work.

Table.10

Years of Experience

Experience	No. of Respondent	Percentage
Below 2 Years	13	22
3-5 Years	23	38
Above 5 Years	24	40
Total	60	100

Source: Primary Data

The above table shows that 22 percentage respondents have experience of 2 years and below, 38 percentage respondents have 3-5 years of experience, 40 percentage respondents have above 5 years.

Table.11

Hours of Working

Duration of working hours	No. of Respondent	Percentage
4-5 hours	10	17
5-6 hours	15	25
Above 6 hours	35	58
Total	60	100

Source: Primary Data

From the above table it is understood that 17 percentage of respondents work for 4-5 hours daily, 25 percentage respondents work for 5-6 hours, 58 percentage respondents work for above 6 hours.

Table.12

Monthly Income of the Respondents

Monthly income of the Respondent	No. of Respondent	Percentage
5000- 8000	14	23

8000-11000	18	30
Above- 11000	28	47
Total	60	100

Source: Primary Data

The table shows that 23 percentage of them are earning the monthly income of Rs.5000-8000, 30 percentage of them earn between Rs.8000-11000, and 47 percentage of them earn above 11000.

Table. 13

Satisfaction Level of the Respondents

Satisfy with work	No. of Respondent	Percentage
Yes	15	25
No	45	75
Total	60	100

Source: Primary Data

The table shows that 25 percentage of the sanitary workers are satisfied their work and 75 percentage of the workers do not satisfied their work.

Table. 14

Problems Faced of the Respondents

Do you face any problem	No. of Respondent	Percentage
Yes	50	83
No	10	17
Total	60	100

Source: Primary Data

The table shows that 83 percentage of the respondents faced problems and 17 percentage of respondents do not face problems.

Table .15

Diseases of the respondents

Do you suffer from any Disease	No. of Respondent	Percentage
Yes	45	75
No	15	25
Total	60	100

Source: Primary Data

The table shows that 75 percentage of sanitary workers suffer some diseases and remaining 25 percentage of respondents do not suffer diseases.

Table. 16

Health Hazards

Health Hazards	No. of Respondent	Percentage
Head Migraine	5	8
Back Pain	20	33
Leg Skin Problem	10	17
Eye Irritation	15	25
Nausea Breathing	10	17
Total	60	100

Source: Primary Data

The above table shows the health issues related to the workers in sanitary workers. They face many health hazards. Some of them are dealt here.8 percentage of respondents suffer from Head Migraine. 33 percentages have Back pain problems. 17 percentages of respondents have Leg skin problems like irritation and allergies.

25 percentages of respondents have eye irritations and 17 percentages of respondents have Nausea Breathing problems.

Major Findings of the study area

1. Majority of the women sanitary workers that is 33 percentages of the respondents are in the age group of 40-50 years.
2. In the majority 50 percentage of the respondent of the sanitary workers belonged to the Hindu religion
3. In the majority 50 percentage of the respondent of the sanitary workers belonged to the Hindu religion
4. 57 percentages of the respondents of them are SC.
5. Majority of the 90 percentage of sanitary workers are married,
6. 43 percentage have completed Higher secondary level of education of the worker are completed graduate.
7. The very clear that 75 percentage of the workers are living in nuclear type of family.
8. 63 percentages of them are living in rented houses.
9. 47 percentages of them earn to income above 11000.
10. 75 percentage of the workers do not satisfied their work.
11. Shows that 83 percentage of the respondents faced problems.

Limitations

The study covered only 60 sample respondent focused on women sanitary workers. But this study is not covered men sanitary workers. This is based on the primary sources in Thoothukudi city.

CONCLUSION

The hazardous nature of sanitation work has been internalized as normative by majority workers of the Dalit community engaged in sanitation work. This has manifested in apathy of the political system by not addressing the larger issue of sanitation, worker safety. This study also reveals their perception of non accessibility to social benefits, exploitation by contractors and health risks, moulded by their low social and economic status efforts to realize the health rights of these marginalized workers should include implementation of safety practices at work, occupational health surveillance and research, and legislation that identifies hazardous work practices and work- related health problem as modifiable and compensable.

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